

back to our communities, the importance of building and trusting our neighbors, and the economic future of our villages and our cities.

Through the years, he donated millions of dollars to the University of Kentucky and Wright State University. Today, two buildings at the Lexington campus bear Erv's name, as does Wright State University's indoor athletic complex.

Erv Nutter was a blunt man. He was an open man. He was a man who would tell you what he thought, never afraid in any way to express his convictions or his strong beliefs.

That is one of the things that made Erv Nutter so endearing. It has been said that the greatness of a man can be measured by the extent and the breadth of his interests and how he acts on those interests to make a difference in this world. Surely by that test, Erv Nutter was a great man. He was so passionate about his interests, and what interests he had: agriculture, technology, wild game conservation, education, sports, history, aviation, or working for a better government. Whatever Erv was interested in, he cared passionately about and he acted upon. And in each area, he made a difference. Sure, he helped financially but, more importantly, Erv gave his time and he gave his energy. He was a man of great passion.

In 1981, Erv Nutter was named Greene County Man of the Year. He served as business chairman of the American Cancer Society, chairman of the Fellow's Committee at the University of Kentucky, member of the President's Club at both Ohio State and Wright State University, past president and trustee of the Aviation Hall of Fame—one of his great passions and his wonderful wife, Zoe Dell's great passions; the work with Zoe Dell continues to this day—as former chairman of the Ohio Republican Finance Committee, and former chairman of the Beavercreek Zoning Commission.

In 1995, at the age of 80, Erv was inducted into the Ohio Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, an honor for outstanding contributions and exceptional achievements begun or continued after the age of 60. Erv always was there for our community. Erv always was there for our State. In all that he did, he made a positive difference. Erv Nutter was a remarkable person, a person who affected countless lives for the better. His family knows that probably better than anyone else because there were so many things Erv Nutter did that he didn't tell anybody about. He just was there to be supportive and to make a difference. He just quietly helped out whenever his community asked. And many times when his community didn't ask, he did it anyway.

The only thing Erv wanted was to make the world a better place for his children, his grandchildren, and for all

of us. Erv Nutter took great pleasure in sharing his personal success with the whole community. I was particularly struck by Erv's humility. I remember that he once told the Xenia Daily Gazette he was the luckiest man in the world. He was lucky because he had had the opportunity to do so many things he had never, ever, in his wildest dreams, thought he would be able to do. He told the paper:

No one can achieve success by himself. I think this is one of the most important things for people to remember today.

Erv didn't seek credit. Rather, he appreciated his success and understood that his community was a great part of that success. We all admired Erv Nutter. We all respected him.

As Chesterton once said:

Great men take up great space, even when they are gone.

Erv Nutter will continue to take up great space on this Earth, not just in buildings but in lives touched and lives changed. Erv Nutter will continue to live on through the great work he has done. He also will live through his wonderful family: his wife Zoe Dell, Joe, Bob and Mary, Ken and Melinda, Katie and Jonathan.

We pay tribute to Erv tonight for what he has meant to our community.

#### ROCCO SCOTTI—A GREAT AMERICAN

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise to recognize tonight Rocco Scotti, a talented and patriotic singer from my home State of Ohio, who is a fixture in Cleveland and Cuyahoga County, northeast Ohio, a fixture at Cleveland Indians baseball games and just about any public event in our community that matters.

Rocco, because of the countless times he has sung our national anthem at local, national, and international events, has truly earned the title of "Star-Spangled Banner Singer of the Millennium."

Rocco, an Italian American whose family is from Italy's east coast, grew up in Cleveland and started his vocal training in opera. He first performed the national anthem publicly in 1974 at an Indians-Orioles game.

Since that time, he has become a regularly featured national anthem singer for both American and National League baseball games, games played in Cincinnati, Cleveland, New York, for the Baltimore Orioles, Oakland A's, Kansas City Royals, Toronto Blue Jays, LA Dodgers. The list goes on and on. Rocco has also had the honor of performing the national anthem for Presidents Gerald Ford and Ronald Reagan.

Rocco's list of accomplishments doesn't end there. He was awarded the United States civilian Purple Heart for inspiring patriotism for his exceptional performance of the national anthem,

and he has performed the anthem on national television for events such as the NBC game of the week, an American League playoff game, the 1981 All Star game, and countless other televised sporting events. Dubbed by People's magazine as one of the best anthem singers in America, he is the first singer to perform the national anthem for the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY. He is a featured singer for the Indians, Cleveland Cavaliers, and Cleveland Force, and he is the permanent singer of the anthem for the Football Hall of Fame ceremonies in Canton, OH.

While Rocco is most known for his rendition of the national anthem, he is also a featured singer of other nations' anthems. He has sung the Polish national anthem for Polish boxing team matches, the Hungarian national anthem for Hungarian basketball games, the Italian national anthem for Italian soccer team contests, and the Israeli national anthem for the appearance of the Assistant Prime Minister of Israel in Cleveland.

Needless to say, Rocco Scotti is an American icon. His voice, indeed, is a national treasure. What impresses me most about Rocco isn't so much his beautiful voice, although it is beautiful, but his amazing attitude about his heritage, his life here in this great country. Rocco said the following to me once:

I am very, very proud that with my Italian heritage, God has given me the honor of performing our country's greatest and most meaningful song.

For that kind of patriotism, love of country, I wish to say thank you to Rocco. I am proud to call him the Star-Spangled Banner Singer of the Millennium.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE GENERAL DANIEL "CHAPPIE" JAMES AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 776

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I would like to honor a great volunteer organization from my home state of Ohio—The General Daniel "Chappie" James American Legion Auxiliary Unit 776. Based in the city of Dayton, this organization and its members were recognized recently by USA Weekend magazine for their participation in the "Ninth Annual Make a Difference Day," which is the largest national day of helping and volunteerism.

To be recognized by USA Weekend, an organization must demonstrate great efforts and achievements in the areas of volunteerism and community service. The General Daniel "Chappie" James American Legion Auxiliary Unit 776 certainly has done that. One of its members, Mrs. Ola Matthews, heard that foster children around the Dayton community must carry their belongings through the foster care system in

plastic trash bags. This worried her greatly. So, she set about to help these children. Under her leadership, the members of Unit 776 conducted fundraisers to buy luggage and collected luggage from community donors. On October 23, 1999, the members of Unit 776 delivered the fruits of their effort—over 1,000 pieces of luggage, plus toiletries, underclothes, and baby supplies—to the Montgomery County Children's Services in Dayton. This is a remarkable achievement and one demonstrating great selflessness and generosity. It is actions like these—an organization helping those in its community—that makes Dayton such a great city.

Mr. President, one young member of this organization, in particular, has made outstanding contributions to her community. Shatoya Hill, who has been involved in Unit 776 most her life, has just been awarded a \$6,000 scholarship for her community service and academic achievements. She has been Junior President of the organization for over 5 years. During this time, she has organized and participated in many fundraisers, from helping veterans to delivering food baskets to the needy during Christmas.

The Dayton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, a public service sorority, awarded the scholarship, which is presented to young women who have excellent academic records, possess high moral character, participate in their church and community, and have interest in higher education. Shatoya certainly exhibits all of these positive qualities. It is great to see Ohio youths working hard for their communities and being recognized for their achievements.

Congratulations Unit 776 and congratulations Shatoya!

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### EXPLANATION OF ABSENCE

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent today for roll-call vote No. 228, on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2507, the intelligence authorization bill. I was in Minnesota visiting with my constituents in Granite Falls who were victims of a tornado which struck the city last night and caused severe damage and some loss of life. Had I been present, I would have voted aye on the motion.

#### MIDDLE EAST PEACE

Mr. BROWNBACK. As recently as this morning, upon Chairman Arafat's arrival back in Gaza, Arafat said:

There is an agreement between us and the Israeli government made in Sharm-El-Sheikh that we continue negotiations until Sept. 13th, the date for declaring our independent state, with Jerusalem as its capital, whether people like it or not.

By itself, the threat undermines confidence in the Palestinians' commitment to the peace process and, in effect, would abrogate the foundation of the Oslo accords that all outstanding final status issues will be resolved through negotiations.

Allow me, for a moment, to review the history here. More than 50 years ago, the United Nations created two states: Israel and Palestine. The creation of a homeland for the Jews in Israel was unacceptable to the Arabs, and five Arab states attacked the newly created state. When all was said and done, Israel was a reality, and the nominal Palestine ended up in the hands of Jordan. We never heard about Jerusalem then.

In fact, when the PLO was created in 1964, Jerusalem was never even mentioned.

When Jordan lost the West Bank and Jerusalem in 1967, then the question of Palestine and Jerusalem became important once again. In fact, we are told that the reason Yasser Arafat walked out of Camp David was because he did not get all of east Jerusalem and the Old City. In other words, when Arafat did not get through the peace process what he could not get through war, he decided to walk away from peace.

One thing has become clear to me in the last few years. The Oslo agreement was nothing less than an admission on the part of the Palestinians and the PLO that Israel would never be defeated in war. The Palestinians entered into a peace process because they had no other choice. Now I am forced to question just how committed they are to that process. If the aim is to win through negotiations what they could not through war, then what kind of a process is it?

There are no ambiguities here: Either the Palestinians are committed to the process, and to a negotiated outcome, or they are not. Arafat's threat to declare a Palestinian state on September 13, 2000 is an abrogation of the peace process, and as such, an abrogation of any understanding with the United States regarding the PLO and Mr. Arafat as negotiating partners.

U.S. assistance to the Palestinians is predicated upon good faith negotiations in a peace process. Nothing else. Nothing. For those that have some doubt, I remind them that as far as U.S. law is concerned, the Palestine Liberation Organization is a terrorist organization.

I and many of my colleagues have always stood ready to accept the out-

come of a negotiated peace between Israel and the Palestinians. We have done so reluctantly, because of fears about what a Palestinian state would do, how it would survive, about the commitment to democracy, and real fears about terrorism.

We will not stand idly by and accept a non-negotiated solution, contrary to the Oslo Accords, contrary to the spirit of a peace process. Should Mr. Arafat go forward and declare a Palestinian state, the bill that Senator SCHUMER and I are offering today will preclude the expenditure of funds to recognize that state and preclude further assistance to any Palestinian governing entity. It instructs the President to use the voice and vote of the United States in the United Nations bodies to stop recognition or admission of a Palestinian state.

I hope Chairman Arafat chooses the path of peace. However, if he does not, this legislation makes very clear that the relationship between the U.S. government and the Palestine leadership will change.

We will not recognize the unilaterally declared Palestinian state and we will strongly urge all others not to do so. Either there is peace through a process or there can be no peace. If that is what Yasser Arafat wants, it is a terrible crime against the Palestinians, and a mistake that history will not forget.

#### CELEBRATING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT: A DECADE OF PROGRESS

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, over the past month and a half, a brightly lit torch has made its journey through nineteen cities, carrying with it each step of the way the passionate and able spirit of the disability community. Today the torch arrives at its 20th stop along the way, our Nation's Capital, to mark the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act. It is indeed an important day in our Nation's long history.

President Franklin Roosevelt once said, "No country, no matter how rich, can afford to waste its human resources." I am proud to say that the Americans with Disabilities Act lives up to President Roosevelt's objective. For 10 years now, this momentous, landmark civil rights legislation has opened new doors to the disability community. It has, at long last, allowed handicapped individuals the opportunity and the access to have their potential recognized both inside the workplace and outside in the community. It has brought the American dream within reach for the millions of American families with disabled members.

Over the past decade of the ADA, we have seen dramatic changes throughout the nation in equal opportunity—